

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 05026 131524Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 131413Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8958

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 071

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 5026

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NO, IS

SUBJECT: REPORTED RELEASE OF ISRAELI PRISONERS

REFS: (A) STATE 246406 (B) OSLO 4857

1. SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS CONFIRMED
RELEASE OF ETHEL MARIANNE GLADNIKOFF WHO DEPARTED
NORWAY FOUR WEEKS AGO. ZWI STEINBERG, AKA SYLVIA
RAFAEL, HOWEVER, IS STILL IN CUSTODY IN NORWAY.
ROUTINE JUDICIAL REVIEW OF CASES OF ALL FOUR
REMAINING PRISONERS JAILED IN CONNECTION WITH
THE LILLEHAMMER CASE HAS BEEN NEGATIVELY AFFECTED
BY THE NORWEGIAN PLO VOTE AND SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL
FUROR IN NORWAY (REF B), ACCORDING TO MINISTRY. ISRAELI EMBASSY
HAS APPROACHED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS SEEKING RELEASE OF ISRAELI PRISONERS
AND HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT CONSIDERATION WILL BE
GIVEN TO THE ISRAELI REQUEST WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF THE NORWEGIAN LEGAL SYSTEM. SOME FLEXIBILITY
DOES EXIST IN LEGAL SYSTEM FOR DISCRETIONARY ACTION WITH-
IN OPERATION OF JUDICIAL REVIEW PROCESS (PRISONERS HAVE BEEN
RELEASED AFTER SERVING AS LITTLE AS ONE THIRD OF SENTENCE). OUR
SOURCE INFORMS US THAT PLO VOTE AND POLITICAL CRITICISM ON
THE HOME FRONT HAS, IN FACT, COMPLICATED THE RELEASE OF THESE
PRISONERS FOR THE SHORT TERM.

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2. ON SEPARATE OCCASION, FOREIGN MINISTER
FRYDENLUND INFORMED AMBASSADOR IN CONFIDENCE THAT
ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN OSLO (KEENAN) IS SUSPECTED
OF WHIPPING UP ANTI-PLO SENTIMENT IN OSLO AND
MAY BE BEHIND SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN FOR LET ISRAEL
LIVE COMMITTEE. KEENAN HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN WARNED
BY FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE
PARICULARLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE WITH RESPECT TO
EARLY RELEASE OF CONVICTED TERRORISTS STILL IN
CUSTODY.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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Disposition Reason:
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